

CLAIMS

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. An adult undergarment affording hip protection comprising
5 a rectangular shaped center panel that extends from the wearer's anterior waist, through and under the wearer's crotch, to the wearer's posterior waist;

10 ventral wings containing cushioning means that extend out from said center panel, perpendicular thereto, to cover the wearer's abdomen and pelvis region from the wearer's waistline to below the wearer's crotch line;

15 dorsal wings containing cushioning means that extend out from said center panel, perpendicular thereto, to cover the wearer's backside from the wearer's waistline to below the wearer's crotch line;

wherein the lateral aspects of said cushioned dorsal and ventral wings overlap and overlay the upper and lower bony prominence of the structures of the hips.

15 2. The adult undergarment of claim 1 wherein the lateral aspects of said ventral and dorsal wings can be detachably fastened one to the other to provide a diaper.

3. The adult undergarment of claim 2 wherein the detachable fastening means is a plurality of tabs having adhesive on one side that extend from the lateral aspects of said dorsal or ventral wings.

20 4. The adult undergarment of claim 1 wherein the inside facing edges of said ventral wings and dorsal wings extend towards one another in curvilinear fashion.

5. The adult undergarment of claim 1 wherein said ventral wings and dorsal wings extend below the wearer's crotch line by at least 2 inches.

6. The adult undergarment of claim 1 wherein said cushioning means is selected from a group consisting of closely packed air filled cells, closely packed liquid filled cells, viscoelastic memory cells, and foam.

5 7. The adult undergarment of claim 1 further comprising a moisture absorbing means within said center panel to absorb moisture from human waste.

10 8. The adult undergarment of claim 7 further comprising a liquid impermeable lining covering the undergarments outside and a liquid permeable lining covering the undergarments inside.

9. The adult undergarment of claim 8 wherein said liquid impermeable lining is fabricated from a viscoelastic plastic material.

15 10. The adult undergarment of claim 7 further comprising sealing strips affixed along the lateral aspects of said center panel to prevent moisture leakage.